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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,739	11/17/2003	Michael J. Stevens	PHUS020627	4669
24737	7590	12/27/2006	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			GORTAYO, DANGELINO N	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT -	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2168	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/27/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/714,739	STEVENS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Dangelino N. Gortayo	2168

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 17 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/17/2003
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-22 are pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) were submitted on 11/17/2003. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 6, 12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "said accessing step" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is unclear whether the accessing step refers to the accessing step of claim 1 (d) or the accessing step of the last limitation of claim 4, rendering the claim indefinite. Proper correction is required.

Claim 12 recites the limitation "said step (a)" in line 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Proper correction is required.

Claim 15 recites the limitation "said step (3)" in line 17. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Proper correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Wallen et al. (Us Patent 6,823,342 B2) in view of Nakajima et al. (US Patent 6,944,515 B2).

As per claim 1, Wallen teaches "A method of organizing and disseminating data in a management information system (MIS)," (see Abstract)

"said method comprising the steps of: (a) identifying at said MIS at least one outside vendor supplying at least one material included in a notification of drawing change issued from said MIS;" (column 8 lines 50-63, column 12 line 66 – column 13 line 3, and column 13 line 58 – column 14 line 8, wherein if a change in the manufacturing strategy, including drawings, are detected, suppliers with the capability to produce material is identified)

"(b) issuing said notification of drawing change from said MIS to said at least one outside vendor identified at said step (a);" (column 14 line 8-12, wherein the design company selects a supplier to contact)

"(c) accessing an MIS website by said at least one outside vendor responsive to said issued notification;" (column 14 lines 13-23 and column 18 lines 28-37, wherein a

supplier can access an MDF Viewer application module to review the manufacturing strategy, including drawings)

“(d) submitting a database search query by said at least one outside vendor at said MIS website including search criteria for viewing drawings prepared by and stored at said MIS;” (column 16 lines 32-50, wherein a Supplier Search Advisor application is searched based on attributes stored in the MDF library)

“(f) filtering said retrieved list of drawings at said MIS to exclude drawings unrelated to said at least one outside vendor;” (column 16 line 59 – column 17 line 18, wherein the data returned to a user is organized into a report that filters unnecessary data)

“and (g) displaying said filtered drawing list to said at least one outside vendor.” (column 17 lines 19-39, column 18 lines 8-11, lines 20-27, wherein the report is presented to a user)

Wallen teaches retrieving data at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query;” (column 15 lines 62-67, column 16 lines 51-58, wherein a list of detailed plans are returned). Wallen does not teach “(e) retrieving a list of drawings at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query”. Nakajima teaches “(e) retrieving a list of drawings at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query” (Figure 2, Figure 6, column 10 lines 12-49, and column 11 lines 1-17, wherein a parts list is returned to a user). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Wallen’s method of configuring and extracting data on manufacturing processes with Nakajima’s method of returning a parts list to a user that includes

drawings. This gives the user the advantage of more detailed and specific data presented to a user of a manufacturing system. The motivation for doing so is to open up the design process to more people sooner, to expedite a manufacturing process. (column 1 lines 30-52)

As per claim 2, Nakajima teaches "said filtered drawing list only includes drawings comprised of materials which are supplied by said at least one outside vendor." (Figure 6 and column 11 lines 1-8, lines 24-28)

As per claim 3, Nakajima teaches "said filtered drawing list is comprised of records wherein each record includes at least an engineering drawing document number, a drawing type indicator, a material identifier, a year of drawing creation, an effectivity date, a revision number, a text description, a field for viewing said drawing, a status indication and an engineering change order number." (column 11 lines 9-23, lines 32-48)

As per claim 4, Wallen teaches "said step (a) further comprises the steps of: determining if said notification of drawing change issued by said MIS system includes a change to at least one engineering drawing stored at said MIS;" (column 13 lines 58-67)

"further determining if said at least one changed engineering drawing includes a material supplied by said at least one outside vendor, when said determining step is satisfied;" (column 14 lines 1-8, lines 23-27)

"accessing a vendor-to-manufacturer (VTM) database associated with MIS, using said at least one outside vendor supplied material as an index to retrieve a

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manufacturer of said material, when said further determining step is satisfied;" (Figure 8 reference 424 and column 13 lines 18-30)

"and (4) accessing a manufacturer-to-vendor (MTV) database associated with MIS using said identified manufacturer at said accessing step as an index to retrieve said at least one outside vendor associated with said manufacturer." (column 13 lines 31-44)

As per claim 5, Wallen teaches " said step (f) further comprises the steps of: (1) accessing a vendor-to-manufacturer (VTM) database associated with said MIS using said at least one outside vendor's assigned vendor number as an index to retrieve manufacturers associated with said at least one outside vendor;" (column 13 lines 17-23)

"(2) accessing a qualified manufacturers (QM) database associated with MIS using said manufacturer identified at said step (1) as an index to retrieve materials for which said manufacturer has been approved for;" (column 13 lines 23-37)

"and (3) using said retrieved materials to filter said retrieved list of drawings." (column 13 lines 37-44)

As per claim 6, Wallen teaches "said accessing step further comprises the steps of: sequentially reviewing each drawing in said retrieved list of drawings to determine if a drawing includes at least one material from among said retrieved materials at said further determining step;" (column 18 lines 47-51)

"if so, including said reviewed drawing in said filtered drawing list, otherwise excluding said reviewed drawing from said filtered drawing list." (column 18 lines 52-64)

As per claim 7, Wallen teaches "said notification of drawing change is an engineering change order (ECO) including at least an engineering drawing change number and an effectivity date for determining when said ECO becomes effective." (column 8 lines 50-63)

As per claim 8, Wallen teaches "said search criteria at said step (d) includes one of a material number, a document number and a notification of drawing change number." (column 16 lines 41-58)

As per claim 9, Wallen teaches "said step (b) further comprises the step of accessing a block email (BEM) database associated with said MIS to exclude those vendors from among said at least one outside vendor who have been predetermined not to receive said issued notification of drawing change." (column 18 lines 38-46)

As per claim 10, Wallen teaches "submitting a database search query by said at least one outside vendor at said MIS website including search criteria for viewing drawing information." (column 16 lines 32-40)

As per claim 11, Wallen teaches "said search criteria includes a manufacturer identifier, a material number, a drawing number and an ordering code." (column 16 lines 41-58)

As per claim 12, Wallen teaches "A system of organizing and disseminating data in a management information system (MIS)," (see Abstract)
"said system comprising: means for identifying at said MIS at least one outside vendor supplying at least one material included in a notification of drawing change

issued from said MIS;" (column 8 lines 50-63, column 12 line 66 – column 13 line 3, and column 13 line 58 – column 14 line 8, wherein if a change in the manufacturing strategy, including drawings, are detected, suppliers with the capability to produce material is identified)

"means for issuing said notification of drawing change from said MIS to said at least one outside vendor identified at said step (a);" (column 14 line 8-12, wherein the design company selects a supplier to contact)

"means for accessing an MIS website by said at least one outside vendor responsive to said issued notification;" (column 14 lines 13-23 and column 18 lines 28-37, wherein a supplier can access an MDF Viewer application module to review the manufacturing strategy, including drawings)

"means for submitting a database search query by said at least one outside vendor at said MIS website including search criteria for viewing drawings prepared by and stored at said MIS;" (column 16 lines 32-50, wherein a Supplier Search Advisor application is searched based on attributes stored in the MDF library)

"means for filtering said retrieved list of drawings at said MIS to exclude drawings unrelated to said at least one outside vendor;" (column 16 line 59 – column 17 line 18, wherein the data returned to a user is organized into a report that filters unnecessary data)

"and means for displaying said filtered drawing list to said at least one outside vendor." (column 17 lines 19-39, column 18 lines 8-11, lines 20-27, wherein the report is presented to a user)

Wallen teaches retrieving data at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query;" (column 15 lines 62-67, column 16 lines 51-58, wherein a list of detailed plans are returned). Wallen does not teach "(e) retrieving a list of drawings at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query". Nakajima teaches "(e) retrieving a list of drawings at said MIS satisfying said submitted database search query" (Figure 2, Figure 6, column 10 lines 12-49, and column 11 lines 1-17, wherein a parts list is returned to a user). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Wallen's method of configuring and extracting data on manufacturing processes with Nakajima's method of returning a parts list to a user that includes drawings. This gives the user the advantage of more detailed and specific data presented to a user of a manufacturing system. The motivation for doing so is to open up the design process to more people sooner, to expedite a manufacturing process. (column 1 lines 30-52)

As per claim 13, Wallen teaches "said filtered drawing list only includes drawings comprised of materials which are supplied by said at least one outside vendor." (Figure 6 and column 11 lines 1-8, lines 24-28)

As per claim 14, Wallen teaches "said filtered drawing list is comprised of records wherein each record includes at least an engineering drawing document number, a drawing type indicator, a material identifier, a year of drawing creation, an effectivity date, a revision number, a text description, a field for viewing said drawing, a status indication and an engineering change order number." (column 11 lines 9-23, lines 32-48)

As per claim 15, Wallen teaches "said means for identifying further comprises: means for determining if said notification of drawing change issued by said MIS system includes a change to at least one engineering drawing stored at said MIS;" (column 13 lines 58-67)

"means for further determining if said at least one changed engineering drawing includes a material supplied by said at least one outside vendor when said means for determining is satisfied;" (column 14 lines 1-8, lines 23-27)

"means for accessing a vendor-to-manufacturer (VTM) database associated with MIS, using said at least one outside vendor supplied material as an index to retrieve a manufacturer of said material when said means for further determining is satisfied;" (Figure 8 reference 424 and column 13 lines 18-30)

"and means for accessing a manufacturer-to-vendor (MTV) database associated with MIS using said identified manufacturer at said step (3) as an index to retrieve said at least one outside vendor associated with said manufacturer." (column 13 lines 31-44)

As per claim 16, Wallen teaches "said means for filtering further comprises: means for accessing a vendor-to-manufacturer (VTM) database associated with said MIS using said at least one outside vendor's assigned vendor number as an index to retrieve manufacturers associated with said at least one outside vendor;" (column 13 lines 17-23)

"means for accessing a qualified manufacturers (QM) database associated with MIS using said identified manufacturer as an index to retrieve materials for which said manufacturer has been approved for;" (column 13 lines 23-37)

"and means for using said retrieved materials to filter said retrieved list of drawings." (column 13 lines 37-44)

As per claim 17, Wallen teaches "said means for using further comprises: means for sequentially reviewing each drawing in said retrieved list of drawings to determine if a drawing includes at least one material from among said retrieved materials;" (column 18 lines 47-51)

"means for including said reviewed drawing in said filtered drawing list, otherwise excluding said reviewed drawing from said filtered drawing list if it is determined that said drawing includes at least one material from among said retrieved materials." (column 18 lines 52-64)

As per claim 18, Wallen teaches "said notification of drawing change is an engineering change order (ECO) including at least an engineering drawing change number and an effectivity date for determining when said ECO becomes effective."

(column 8 lines 50-63)

As per claim 19, Wallen teaches "said search criteria includes one of a material number, a document number and a notification of drawing change number." (column 16 lines 41-58)

As per claim 20, Wallen teaches "said means for issuing said notification of drawing change further comprises: means for accessing a block email (BEM) database associated with said MIS to exclude those vendors from among said at least one outside vendor who have been predetermined not to receive said issued notification of drawing change." (column 18 lines 38-46)

As per claim 21, Wallen teaches "means for submitting a database search query by said at least one outside vendor at said MIS website including search criteria for viewing drawing information." (column 16 lines 32-40)

As per claim 22, Wallen teaches "said search criteria includes a manufacturer identifier, a material number, a drawing number and an ordering code." (column 16 lines 41-58)

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Knoblock et al. (US Patent 6,473,762 B1)

Fortes et al. (US Publication 2003/0036991 A1)

Suzuki et al. (US Patent 7,047,237 B2)

Jones et al. (US Patent 7,149,959 B1)

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dangelino N. Gortayo whose telephone number is (571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Dangelino N. Gortayo
Examiner

Tim T. Vo
SPE


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